

CLASSIFICATION ENGINE FOR MANAGING ATTRIBUTE-BASED DATA

Ben Folk-Williams
Jimmy Wan

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A classification engine provides flexible support for manipulation of attribute-
based data by dynamic generation of SQL with classifiers constructed from different
schema objects representing different database schemas. The classifiers may be
constructed by defining classifiers corresponding to the database schema, and
mapping the classifiers to columns on tables in the database. The invention also
10 allows a classification system to modify the database structure and easily conform the
classification engine to the modified structure without recompiling the engine or
rewriting the application that use the classification system. The engine is conformed
to the new structure by constructing a second schema object for the modified
database. The schema objects are preferably defined using a field-based language
15 such as extensible markup language (XML).